

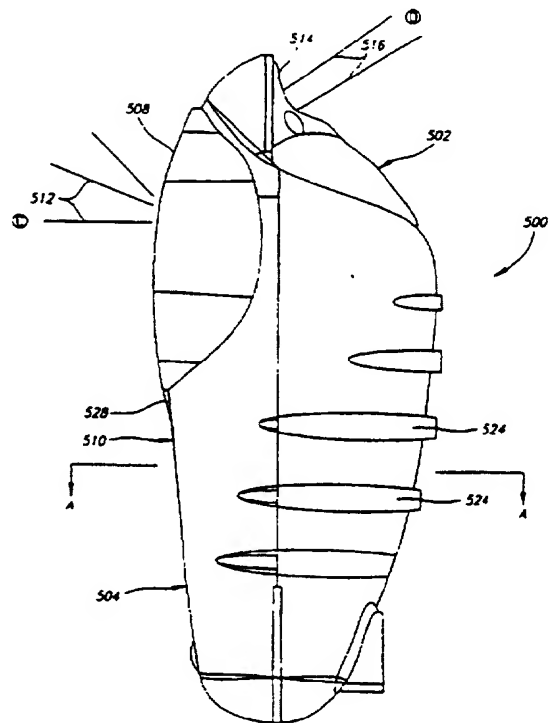
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(54) Abstract Title
Multiple aperture data reader for multi-mode operation

(57) A data reader (500) and method for data reading, such as a bar code scanner, wherein the scan pattern generating optics and other features are optimized for different modes of operation. In a preferred embodiment, different patterns (512, 516) are projected from different apertures (508, 514) in the scanner housing, one scan pattern optimized for handheld operation and the other optimized for fixed operation. Other optimizable features include the presence or absence of an aiming beam, which may be generated from the same laser source as the scan pattern or from another source, and enabling or disabling decoding of the signal received during a portion of a facet wheel (250) rotation. Decoding may be disabled while the scan lines for handheld use are generated unless a switch or trigger is actuated.



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